28th August 1926]

Archæology:

Protected monuments in South Kanara.

*2399 *Q.*—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state --

(*a*) with reference to question No. 2163, clause (*d*), answered on 16th July 1926, whether both the court and the courtyard referred to have been declared protected, and if so, when and under what conditions; and

(*b*) whether the Jain statue of Gomateshwara at Venoor of the Karkal taluk in South Kanara has not been declared so protected, and if so, what the reasons are?

A.—(*a*) The inner courtyard of the palace alone has been declared protected under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act. This declaration was made in 1921 since the courtyard contained beautifully carved wooden pillars, a coffered wooden ceiling and a fine carved wooden door, which the Government wished to save from decay. A copy [a] of the agreement executed by the owner of the building is appended.

(*b*) No. Objections were raised against the proposal to declare the statue protected and the trustee was unwilling to enter into an agreement with Government for its preservation.

Depressed Classes.

Alleged obstruction to depressed classes from passing through the public pathway of Killanur.

*2400 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the petition of the depressed classes, dated 14th July 1926, sent to the Chief Secretary, Government of Madras, through me, regarding the obstruction caused to them in their passage through the public pathway in the village of Killanur, Tirukkoyilur taluk, on 1st June 1926, has been received; and

(*b*) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter and with what results?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government have not taken any action in the matter. The hon. Member has already been informed that the matter is one for the local authorities to deal with.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"With reference to the answers given in clauses (*a*) and (*b*), may I know whether Government have not taken any action in the matter at least of announcing the G.O. No. 2666, dated 24th September 1926, with reference to allowing all classes of people without any distinction whatever to pass through public roads and pathways without any obstruction from anybody?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is a matter for the local authorities concerned."

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 367-369 infra.